

SECRET**SECURITY INFORMATION**

17-330

13 February 1953

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Bolivian Tin Situation

1. Bolivia has normally exported its tin production to the United States and the United Kingdom with approximately half going to each. However, because of unsettled conditions since the nationalization of the Bolivian tin industry in November 1952, the flow of tin from Bolivia has slowed. Although the United States and the United Kingdom have made spot purchases and some small amounts have been exported to other countries, part of which may have reached the Soviet Bloc, some tin concentrates have accumulated at Chilean ports. Recently the Bolivian Government has concluded a long term contract with the William Harvey Company for delivery of the output of the former Patino mines to the United Kingdom, about half of the total output. At present negotiations are underway for a long term contract with the United States, but are not believed to have reached an agreement to date. It should be noted that the Bolivian Government may well need to find an outlet for her tin production to remain in power.

2. Bolivia normally furnishes a substantial part of the tin supplies of the United States. From 1947 to 1952, Bolivian exports to the United States were as follows in long tons:

	Imported from Bolivia	Total US Imports	% From Bolivia
1947	22,967	55,456	41.3
1948	20,288	86,445	23.5
1949	19,265	98,535	19.6
1950	14,324	108,976	13.1
1951	13,093	57,412	22.8
Jan to Aug 1952	6,407	67,765	9.5

3. As of 30 September 1952, the United States had a total inventory of 178,379 long tons of tin in the stockpile, which is 72.8% of the total stockpile objective of 245,000 long tons. It was planned to have completed 81% of the total objective by June 1953.

4. It may be noted that no important increases in production among the major free world producers, Malaya, Indonesia, Belgium Congo, Nigeria and Thailand, has been forecast for 1953.

FEB 16 1953